

REMARKS

Claims 18 and 29 are canceled herein. Claims 1-9, 11-17, 19, 20, 22-26, 28 and 30 now remain pending in the application.

Claims 1-5, 11-15 and 22-24 over O'Neal in view of Bobick

In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 11-15 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 6,411,685 to O'Neal ("O'Neal") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,535,583 to Bobick et al. ("Bobick"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-5, 11-15 and 22-24 recite a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, **the voice message is automatically compressed, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory.**

The Examiner acknowledged that O'Neal fails to disclose automatic compression after a voice message has been played back (Office Action, page 3). However, the actual claim limitation is not compression of a voice message after being played back but automatic compression upon a user selecting to delete the voice message. The Applicants respectfully contend that Bobick fails to disclose, teach or suggest Applicants' actual claim limitation of automatic compression of a voice message upon a user selecting to delete the voice message, as recited by claims 1-5, 11-15 and 22-24.

Bobick appears to disclose a system and method for automatically managing a digital telephone answering device's memory space (see col. 1, lines 42-43). Messages with a high likelihood of future play take precedence over messages with a low likelihood of future play (see Bobick, col. 1, lines 43-45). Voice messages are compressed to produce a compressed representation of the voice messages (see col. 1, lines 56-57). The memory space for deleted voice messages is opened by the system and method for recording of additional voice messages (see Bobick, col. 25, lines 44-col. 26, line 44).

Thus, Bobick discloses deletion of voice messages. However, deletion of voice messages, as disclosed by Bobick, triggers his system and

method to manage the memory space that was occupied by the deleted voice message. Bobick fails to connect the two concepts of deletion and compression in any way. Bobick fails to disclose, teach or suggest automatic **compression** of a voice message upon a user selecting to delete the voice message, as recited by claims 1-5, 11-15 and 22-24.

Thus, O'Neal in view of Bobick, either alone or in combination, would still fail to disclose, teach or suggest automatic compression of a voice message upon a user selecting to delete the voice message, much less a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, **the voice message is automatically compressed, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory**, as recited by claims 1-5, 11-15 and 22-24.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 1-5, 11-15 and 22-24 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 6 and 16-18 over O'Neal, Bobick and Murray

Claims 6 and 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over O'Neal in view of Bobick, and further yet in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,369,697 to Murray et al. ("Murray"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 18 is canceled herein, making the rejection of claim 18 now moot.

Claims 6, 16 and 17 recite a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to **delete** the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, the voice message is automatically **compressed**, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory.

The Examiner agrees that O'Neal in view of Bobick fails to disclose, teach or suggest automatically deleting old voice messages after a time period (Office Action, page 7). However, the Examiner cites Murray to allegedly make up for the void in the prior art.

Murray appears to describe in contrast to his invention conventional voice mail that deletes old messages after a period of time (col. 4, lines 25-30). Murray's invention is directed toward a system and method for automatic switching between pulse code and DTMF signals generated by a telephone (Abstract). Murray fails to disclose, teach or suggest use of compression in any way, much less disclose, teach or suggest automatic compression of a voice message upon a user selecting to delete the voice message, much less a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, **the voice message is automatically compressed, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory**, as recited by claims 1-5, 11-15 and 22-24.

Thus, O'Neal in view of Bobick and Murray, either alone or in combination, fails to disclose, teach or suggest automatic compression of a voice message upon a user selecting to delete the voice message, much less a system

and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, **the voice message is automatically compressed, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory**, as recited by claims 6, 16 and 17.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 6, 16 and 17 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 7, 8, 19 and 25 over O'Neal in view of Bobick and Garson

In the Office Action, claims 7, 8, 19 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over O'Neal in view of Bobick, and further still in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,689,550 to Garson et al. ("Garson"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 7, 8, 19 and 25 recite a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to **delete** the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, the voice message is automatically **compressed**, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory.

As discussed above, O'Neal in view of Bobick fails to disclose, teach or suggest automatic compression of a voice message upon a user selecting to delete the voice message, much less a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, **the voice message is automatically compressed, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory**, as recited by claims 1-5, 11-15 and 22-24.

The Examiner relied on Garson to allegedly disclose deletion of oldest voice messages from a memory queue when the memory queue reaches its limit by percentage of memory area or by the number of messages (Office Action, page 8). Thus, O'Neal in view of Bobick and Garson, either alone or in

combination, would still fail to disclose, teach or suggest automatic compression of a voice message upon a user selecting to delete the voice message, much less a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, **the voice message is automatically compressed, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory**, as recited by claims 1-5, 11-15 and 22-24.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 7, 8, 19 and 25 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 9, 20 and 26 over O'Neal in view of Bobick and Sweet

Claims 9, 20 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over O'Neal in view of Bobick, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,163,085 to Sweet et al. ("Sweet"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 9, 20 and 26 recite a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, the voice message is automatically **compressed**, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory.

The Examiner alleged that Sweet discloses "that when voice messages in a voice file (memory) reach a predetermined percentage level, the oldest voice messages in the voice file will be deleted (column 12, lines 53-60). Thus, O'Neal in view of Bobick and Sweet, either alone or in combination, would still fail to disclose, teach or suggest automatic compression of a voice message upon a user selecting to delete the voice message, much less a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, **the voice message is automatically compressed, moved and stored in a deleted voice message**

memory, as recited by claims 1-5, 11-15 and 22-24.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 9, 20 and 26 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3, 12, 13, 22 and 23 over Jones in view of Becker and Carbone

Claims 1-3, 12, 13, 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 6,522,727 to Jones ("Jones") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,699,411 to Becker et al. ("Becker"), and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,128,859 to Carbone et al. ("Carbone"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-3, 12, 13, 22 and 23 recite a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, the voice message is automatically compressed, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory.

The Examiner acknowledged that Jones fails to disclose compressing a voice message when it is archived (See Office Action, page 10). However, claims 1-3, 12, 13, 22 and 23 do not recite compressing a voice message when it is archived. It is well settled that each and every claim limitation must be considered. As specified in MPEP §2143.03, entitled "All Claim Limitations Must Be Taught or Suggested": "To establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). 'All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art.' In re Wilson, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970)." MPEP §2143.03 at 2100-133 (Rev. 2, May 2004). Claims 1-3, 12, 13, 22 and 23 recite automatic compression of a voice message upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message. Thus, even if either Becker or Carbone discloses compressing a voice message when it is archived, Becker and Carbone cannot make up for the deficiencies in Jones. If the

Examiner continues to allege that a user selecting a keypad option to delete a voice message is **synonymous** within the art with a user selecting to archive a voice message, the Examiner is respectfully requested to provide **SUPPORT** for the Examiner's allegation. Moreover, as discussed below, the Examiner is respectfully requested to interpret Applicants' claimed feature consistent with the Examiner's own cited prior art that distinguishes between archiving and deleting a voice message.

Jones appears to disclose a system and method of archiving locally stored voice message at a remote location (Abstract). Thus, Jones lacks any relevance to Applicant's claims that are directed toward automatically **compressing** voice messages that are **deleted**, much less disclose, teach or suggest any relevance to a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, the voice message is automatically compressed, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory, as recited by claims 1-3, 12, 13, 22 and 23.

The Examiner appears to rely on Becker and Carbone to disclose for nearly the same features, i.e., compression of archived voice messages/data files (Office Action, page 11). However, as Applicants discussed above, claims 1-3, 12, 13, 22 and 23 do not recite compressing a voice message when it is archived. Thus, even if Becker and Carbone disclosed what the Examiner alleged that they disclose, Becker and Carbone cannot make up for the deficiencies in Jones.

Carbone appear to disclose compression of repeating bit patterns within both dictation and message files (see col. 14, lines 29-31). Compressed files can be archived using minimal amounts of storage resources (see col. 14, lines 31-33). Thus, as the Examiner points out Carbone is directed toward compression of voice messages for archiving purposes. Carbone fails to disclose, teach or suggest any relevance to Applicant's claims that are directed toward automatically **compressing** voice messages that are **deleted**, much less

disclose, teach or suggest any relevance to a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, the voice message is automatically **compressed**, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory, as recited by claims 1-3, 12, 13, 22 and 23.

Moreover, Carbone appears to disclose an accident estimating system that compresses estimate data and images for archiving (see col. 2, lines 3-5). Thus, Carbone lacks any relevance to Applicant's claims that are directed toward a voice message, much less compression of a voice message, much less automatically **compressing** voice messages that are **deleted**, much less disclose, teach or suggest any relevance to a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, the voice message is automatically **compressed**, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory, as recited by claims 1-3, 12, 13, 22 and 23.

Thus, Jones in view of Becker and Carbone, either alone or in combination, fails to disclose, teach or suggest automatically **compressing** voice messages that are **deleted**, much less disclose, teach or suggest any relevance to a system and method wherein a voice message is stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible voice message memory, the voice message is automatically **compressed**, moved and stored in a deleted voice message memory, as recited by claims 1-3, 12, 13, 22 and 23.

Moreover, the Examiner's motivation to modify Jones with the disclosures of Becker and Carbone was "because such a modification would have reduced the memory area (deleted voice message memory) required for storing the archived voice messages." Office Action, page 11. However, Jones does not have any need for a reduced memory area for storing voice message (as discussed above archiving is **NOT deleting**) because Jones uses remote

storage to transfer voice messages from a local voice messaging system to an archiving location. Thus, Jones **already** solves a limited memory problem of a conventional voice message without the use of compression. The Examiner has failed to show why Jones would require a **second** solution, much less a different solution, for a voice mail system that has limited memory space for storing voice messages.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 1-3, 12, 13, 22 and 23 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 28-30 over Knuth in view of Bobick and Tow

Claims 28-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 5,400,393 to Knuth et al. ("Knuth") in view of Bobick, and further in view of EP 820182 to Tow ("Tow"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Claim 29 is canceled herein, making the rejection of claim 29 now moot.

Claim 28 recites a voice message that is initially stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from said user accessible voice message memory, the voice message is **compressed**, moved and restored in a deleted voice message memory. Claim 30 recites removing a user deleted voice message stored in a user accessible first memory area upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible first memory area, **compressing** the user deleted voice message, and storing the user deleted voice message in a second memory area.

The Examiner acknowledged that Knuth discloses that when a user presses a number on a keypad to indicate an individual mailbox number during playback, the voice message that is stored in a common area is deleted and moved to an individual mailbox (Office Action, page 12). The Examiner alleged that a user pressing a number on a keypad to move a message from a common

voice message area to an individual mailbox is synonymous to the claimed a user selecting a keypad option to delete a voice message. However, the Examiner's interpretation of the claimed features is contrary to Knuth's disclosure of deletion of a voice message being a different term within the from than moving a voice message. Knuth distinguishes moving a voice message from deletion of a voice message at col. 5, lines 7-21 and col. 7, lines 7-17. The Examiner has interpreted Applicants' claimed features contrary to what Knuth discloses as a term of art. The Examiner is respectfully requested to interpret the claimed features consistent with the Examiner's own cited prior art.

The Examiner relied on Bobick to disclose compression of a voice message after is has been played back to a user (Office Action, page 12). However, as discussed above the claimed features are not claiming compression of a voice message after is has been played back to a user. Claims 28-30 recite compression of a user deleted voice message. Thus, even if Bobick discloses what the Examiner alleged that Bobick discloses, Bockick fails to make up for the deficiencies in Knuth.

Tow was relied on by the Examiner to disclose dynamically modifying disk space for mailboxes (Office Action, page 12). However, Tow lack any relevance to compression of deleted voice messages, as recited by claims 28 and 30.

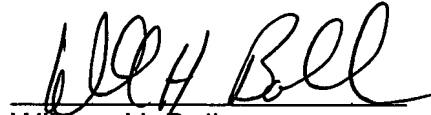
Thus, Knuth in view of Bobick and Tow, either alone or in combination, would still fail to disclose, teach or suggest a voice message that is initially stored in a user accessible voice message memory, and upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from said user accessible voice message memory, the voice message is **compressed**, moved and restored in a deleted voice message memory; and removing a user deleted voice message stored in a user accessible first memory area upon a user selecting a keypad option to delete the voice message from the user accessible first memory area, **compressing** the user deleted voice message, and storing the user deleted voice message in a second memory area, as respectively recited by claims 28 and 30.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 28 and 30 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W H Bollman', written over a horizontal line.

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